GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SKILL DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP,YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:411
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014
ARJUNA AWARDS
Subbareddy Shri Yerram Venkata

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP,YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed list for Arjuna Awards is facing criticism from several quarters and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Sports Authority of India (SAI) is of the view that the recommendations made by the Arjuna Awards Panel are biased and needs proper scrutiny;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that SAI has received several recommendations to make the selection process more transparent; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken by the Government to make the Arjuna Awards selection process more transparent?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) The Scheme of Arjuna Awards was revised in January 2014 and marks criteria was introduced for evaluation and assessment of achievements of the sportspersons nominated for Arjuna Awards. Selection of sportspersons for Arjuna Awards 2014 was made in accordance with the revised scheme. The Selection Committee for Arjuna Awards recommended 15 Sportspersons for Arjuna Awards 2014. Representations were received against the recommendations of the Selection Committee, which were considered by the Selection Committee in its second meeting and the Selection Committee reiterated its ealier recommendations. Shri Manoj Kumar (Boxing) filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court. Keeping in view the directions of the Delhi High Court, the case of Shri Manoj Kumar (Boxing) was examined in the Ministry and the Ministry decided to give Arjuna Award to Shri Manoj Kumar also.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) In view of above, question does not arise.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) The purpose of revising the Scheme of Arjuna Awards in January 2014 was to make the selection process more transparent and objective. Government is always willing to consider suggestions to make the process more transparent.